

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Christian HARDY et al.

Serial No.: New Application

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: PROGRAMMABLE ADAPTER DEVICE FOR COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application,
please enter the following specification changes as noted below:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 19 as follows:

19. (Amended) Configuration process used in an adapter
device according to claim 1 , the process comprising :

- a recognition step (R) in which the adapter (20)
determines and memorizes a partial identifier (18a) or a complete
identifier (18b) of a lower level protocol starting from means
of recognising the lower level connecting cable (14) connected
to the adapter (20) ,

• a first identification step (I1) in which the adapter (20) communicates with the higher level equipment (30) using the higher level communication protocol to transmit the partial identifier (18a) or the complete identifier (18b) of the lower level protocol, to the higher level equipment,

• a first downloading step (T1) in which the higher level equipment (30) downloads a first conversion program (15) between the higher level protocol and the lower level protocol, into the adapter (20), corresponding to the partial identifier (18a) or the complete identifier (18b) of the transmitted lower level protocol.

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 remain pending herein. Claim 19 has been amended hereby.

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to eliminate multiply dependent claims from the above-identified application.

Examination of this application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 9, 2001

Date



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Attachment: Claim Mark-ups

Attorney Docket No. SCHN:010

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~~a group composed of the FIP, CAN, CANopen, Interbus S, DeviceNet protocols.~~

18. Adapter device according to claim 1, wherein the lower level communication protocol is a
 5 ~~communication protocol based on the USB protocol.~~

19. (Amended) Configuration process used in an adapter device according to claim 1 ~~one of the previous claims~~, the process comprising :

- a recognition step (R) in which the adapter (20)
 10 determines and memorizes a partial identifier (18a) or a complete identifier (18b) of a lower level protocol starting from means of recognising the lower level connecting cable (14) connected to the adapter (20),

- a first identification step (I1) in which the
 15 adapter (20) communicates with the higher level equipment (30) using the higher level communication protocol to transmit the partial identifier (18a) or the complete identifier (18b) of the lower level protocol, to the higher level equipment,

- a first downloading step (T1) in which the
 20 higher level equipment (30) downloads a first conversion program (15) between the higher level protocol and the lower level protocol, into the adapter (20), corresponding to the partial identifier (18a) or
 25 the complete identifier (18b) of the transmitted lower level protocol.

~~20. Configuration process according to claim 19,~~
 wherein, when the lower level protocol identifier transmitted to the higher level equipment (30) during
 30 the first identification step (I1) is a partial identifier (18a), the process comprises the following additional steps :

- a learning step (A) in which the adapter (20) communicates with the lower level equipment (40) using
 35 ~~the first conversion program (15) downloaded during the~~